

February 3, 2015

Housing Committee - Public Hearing on

Proposed H.B. No. 6138, An Act Concerning Mobility Counseling for Subsidized Housing

Written Testimony of Cathy K. Forcier

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Housing Committee –

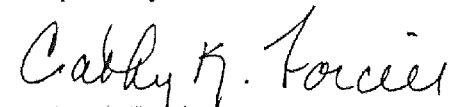
I'd like to thank Representatives Morris and Santiago for their good intentions in introducing this bill.

I have been a public housing practitioner for over 25 years. My experience includes being the current President of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Housing & Redevelopment Officials more commonly known as CONN-NAHRO. I am currently the Executive Director of the Wethersfield Housing Authority.

I oppose H.B. 6138 requiring public housing authorities to provide comprehensive mobility counseling to persons for all housing options for which they are eligible. Housing authorities are basically landlords who don't have the staffing to provide this service. Additionally, the language is vague. If the intention is to have housing authorities educate applicants on all the housing opportunities available at that housing authority I believe that is already being done.

If the intention is to provide education on opportunities statewide or nationwide, housing authorities don't have the resources to do so.

Respectfully submitted,


Cathy K. Forcier